

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-02 AID-05 IGA-01 A-01

GAO-02 /031 R

DRAFTED BY A/BF/OAG:RADEITCHMAN:MB

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TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS STATE 204818

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:AGAO, AMGT

SUBJECT: GAO COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEY

FRANKFURT FOR GAO MR. CONAHAN.

1. DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE THAT GAO EUROPEAN BRANCH (FRANKFURT) PLANS CONDUCT COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEYS AT ADDRESSEE POSTS EARLY OCTOBER (SPAIN) AND EARLY NOVEMBER (NIGERIA). GAO TEAM WILL CONSIST OF BRANCH DIRECTOR, PLUS GAO AUDITORS ROBERT BRADY AND NEAL CURTIN. BRADY AND CURTIN WILL BE IN WASHINGTON SEP. 23 - OCT. 3 FOR BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE BUREAU, COUNTRY AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, PLUS MEETING WITH OTHER WASHINGTON AGENCY OFFICIALS (USIA, USAID, DOD, FAS, ETC.). GAO FRANKFURT FORWARDING NOTIFICATION LETTERS TO EACH EMBASSY DESCRIBING SURVEY SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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SECURITY CLEARANCES AND ARRIVAL DATES OF GAO AUDITORS.

IN-COUNTRY SURVEY PERIOD APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS.

2. FOR BACKGROUND: COUNTRY COGNIZANCE SURVEYS ARE GAO SELF-INITIATED, INFORMATION-GATHERING STUDIES FOR PURPOSES THEIR: MAINTAINING CONTINUING SURVEILLANCE OF USG ACTIVITIES ABROAD; BEING ALERT TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES OR SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENTS TO BETTER ENABLE GAO TO RESPOND TO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES; IDENTIFYING PROBLEM AREAS OR POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS WHICH MAY REQUIRE THE MORE INTENSIVE AUDIT-REVIEW. SUCH SURVEYS DO NOT NORMALLY RESULT IN FORMAL REPORTING TO THE CONGRESS; HOWEVER, INFORMAL REPORTS ARE PREPARED BY THE GAO AUDITORS AT POST, AND FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS DISCUSSED WITH COM AND COUNTRY TEAM.

3. DEPARTMENT WISHES BE FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATE WITH GAO ON SUBJECT SURVEY WITHIN PROVISIONS OF 4 FAM 930-934. GAO AWARE THAT ANY CONTACTS OUTSIDE OF USG OFFICIAL COMMUNITY ARE AT DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR AND TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY EMBASSY. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING COURSE OF SURVEY SHOULD BE REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT. INGERSOLL

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